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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/075,847	02/13/2002	Harry R. Howard JR.	PC11835A	9027

23913 7590 09/26/2003
PFIZER INC
150 EAST 42ND STREET
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NEW YORK, NY 10017-5612

EXAMINER

LIU, HONG

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1624

DATE MAILED: 09/26/2003

3

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Applicati n N .

10/075,847

Applicant(s)

HOWARD, HARRY R.

Examiner

Hong Liu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communicati n appears on the c ver sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) 1-30 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: .

Election/Restrictions

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
 - I. Claims 1-21, drawn to a composition and compound of formula I wherein rings A and B are phenyl, R1, R2, R3, and R4 do not form a ring, classified in class 564 and various subclasses depending on the nature of other substituents.
 - II. Claims 1-21, drawn to a composition and compound of formula I wherein rings A and B are naphthyl, R1, R2, R3, and R4 do not form a ring, classified in class 564 and various subclasses depending on the nature of other substituents.
 - III. Claims 1-21, drawn to a composition and compound of formula I wherein rings A and B are phenyl, R1 and R2 form a ring, classified in class 544 and subclass depending on the nature of the ring formed.
 - IV. Claims 1-21, drawn to a composition and compound of formula I wherein rings A and B are phenyl, R1 and R2 form a ring, classified in class 548 and subclass depending on the nature of the ring formed.
 - V. Claims 1-21, drawn to a composition and compound of formula I wherein rings A and B are phenyl, R2 and R3 form a ring, classified in class 544 and subclass depending on the nature of the ring formed.
 - VI. Claims 1-21, drawn to a compound and composition not included in Groups I-V, classified in classes and subclasses depending on the nature of the substituents.
 - VII. Claims 22-30, drawn to a method of treating anxiety or depression using compound of formula I

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

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Groups I-VI are directed to structurally dissimilar compounds such that the variable core created by varying the definitions of the formula do not belong to a recognized class of chemical compounds in the art, and references anticipating one invention would not render obvious the others, for example, pyrimidine, pyridine, etc. are different from a non-heterocyclic group. Thus, separate searches in the literature as well as in the U.S. Patent Clarification System would be required. Each group's compounds are made and used independently of each other and could support separate patents. The compounds differ significantly in chemical structures. One skilled in the art would not consider such diverse structures as functional equivalents of each other. The mere fact that there is a single similarity is not in itself a significant reason to render the whole embodiment obvious.

Inventions I-VI and VII are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case more than one use exists for compounds of Group I as evidenced by claims 22-30 drawn to a variety of diverse uses. Additionally, the various uses would raise issues of enablement separate from that of the compound claims and would require art-recognized evidence that activity relied on its reasonably correlated to in vivo efficacy for the uses claimed.

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A telephone call was made to Ms. Jolene Appleman on 09/25/03 to request an oral election to the above restriction requirement, but did not result in an election being made. A written restriction was requested.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).


Tentative election of a single species with the elected group is further required.


Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Examiner Hong Liu whose telephone number is (703) 306-5814. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by the phone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mukund Shah can be reached at (703) 308-4716. The fax phone number for this group is (703) 308-4734 for "unofficial" purposes and the actual number for official business is (703) 308-4556. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose number is (703) 308-1235.

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September 25, 2003


BRUCK KIFLE, PH.D.
PRIMARY EXAMINER

 Mukund Shah
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Art Unit 1624